

DAILY, per Year a oo ND SUNDAY, per Year..... 8 00 DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month...... Postage to foreign countries added. THE SUR, New York City.

PARIS-Klosque No. 12, near Grand Rosel, and

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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for ion wish to have rejected articles returns publication test to assess and stamps for that purpose.

The Rapid Transit Decision.

In form, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court has confirmed the report of its Commissioners in favor of the construction by the city of New York of the proposed underground rapid transit railroad; but in substance it postpones the confirmation until, by further litigation, the Court of Appeals shall have decided whether the construction sought will or will not entail upon the city a debt exceeding the constitutional limit.

More than this, the court makes its approval conditional upon the filing by the Rapid Transit Commissioners of a stipulation to require, from the contractors for building the road, a bond with a penalty of not less than \$15,000,000.

It follows, therefore, that nothing can be done in the way of commencing the work until the Court of Appeals affirms its legality, nor until contractors for it can be found who will put up security to the amount of \$15,000,000 or more.

This looks more like a defeat of the scheme than a victory for it.

The Republicans Must Sustain the Civil Service Law.

In the course of the debate on the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill, discussion fell upon Republican fidelity to both the letter and the spirit of the Civil Service law. Congressman BAR-BETT of Massachusetts referred to a similar discussion of that particular subject in the House seven years ago, and quoted the subjoined remarks made at that time by a Republican member:

"If the Republican party of this country is pledged to any one thing more than to another, it is to the maintenance of the Civil Service law and its emcient execution; not only that, but to its enlargement an further application to the public service. The law as it stands upon our statute books to-day was put there by Republican votes. It was a Republica Every national platform of the Republi can party since its enactment has declared not in favor of its continuance in full vigor, but in favor of its enlargement, so as to apply more generally to the public service."

"Who said that?" asked somebody. "Mr. Chairman," replied Mr. BARRETT, "that utterance was made by WILLIAM McKINLEY of Ohio."

There is no need to go back so far as that. The last National Convention of the Republican party, held in St. Louis eighteen months ago, adonted this resolution :

"The Civil Service law was placed on the statut book by the Republican party, which has always sustained it, and we renew our repeated declarations that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable."

That declaration renders superfluous all argument at the present time concerning the expediency of maintaining, in letter and in spirit, the Civil Service law as it stands; or the desirability of extending its operations wherever practicable.

Republicans who may attack it, directly or indirectly, in the Fifty-fifth Congress will lose both their time and their wind.

Democrats who may attack it will accomplish nothing. They will have the record of their futile utterances as the only reward for their pains.

All this is independent of any question to the merits of the competitive system as administered, or of the advisability of retaining it as part of our system. The place and the time to discuss that will be In the National Convention of 1900.

But it is of primary importance that a great party, intrusted with the control of the Government, shall keep its pledges and fulfil its promises.

India Demands Self-Government.

The British Government seems to have awakened to the fact that it has something more to deal with in India than a mere passing wave of discontent. It has been forced to recognize that It has to face a demand on the part of the people of British India for some share in the government of their own country, some voice in the way their taxes shall be raised and expended. At the present moment they have neither one nor the other.

On different occasions, notably in 1858 after the mutiny of the native army had given the British Government the opportunity to assume the direct administration of India, the people of India have been as sured by royal proclamation that the sovereign recognized no distinction between her British subjects and her nativeborn subjects. In the proclamation of Nov. 1, 1858, which the people of India regard as the great charter of their rights, the following special clauses occur:

"We nold ourselves bound to the natives of ou Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects, and those obligations, by the blessing of Almighty Gop, we shall fatthfully and conscientiously fulfil.

"Audit is our further will that, so far as may be, our subjects, of whatever race or creed, he freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service. the duties of which they may be qualified by their neation, ability and integrity duly to dischar "In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our

best reward. And may Gob grant to us, and to those in authority under us, strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people." Nothing could be more explicit than this.

It was received in India with public re joicing, tireworks, illuminations, and the firing of cannon. On the faith of it, thousands of young Indians set to work to qualify themselves for official posts in the administration and government of their promises of the royal proclamation were Illusory, and that, whatever was the inten- | ward and spiritual grace. tion of its framers, it had been studiously nullified in execution.

Soon after this proclamation was issued a committee was appointed by the Secretary of State for India, composed of five desires particularly, that will be an ap-Anglo-Indian members of his own Council. propriate gift; but so also will any gift be They made their report on Jan. 20, 1860. In it they found that while theoretically | ding ring which makes the matron cherish | there existed no positive disqualification | it through life with an almost superstitious and the natives of India were not excluded | regard, but the marriage it typifies and from the civil service of India, in practice symbolizes. The veriest trifle may be enthey were excluded. The difficulties en- riched beyond price by the inward grace of countered by a native who wants to leave which it is the outward expression. Dia-India and reside in England for a time | monds and rubies can tell no more of that are so great that, as a general rule, it is spiritual sentiment than the cheapest arti- that there is anything so serious about the | o prepare for a triding sum foods which al-

almost impossible for a native succession fully to compete at the periodical examinations, which are held in England. The committee recommended that in order to remedy this, examinations should be held simultaneously in England and India, identical in their nature, the competitors being finally classified in one list, according to merit, by the Civil Service Com-

This very fair and just solution was rejected, as it would have ended the monopoly that has been enjoyed by British-born subjects for over forty years of employment in the Indian civil service. Its rejection blighted the hopes of the Indian people, and has contributed, along with the spread of education, to rouse them to demand, with a voice described by English reactionary journals as "seditious," the fulfilment of the promises successively made by British Governments in 1833 and 1858,

In 1867 the question was brought before the Government of the day in England, and much show was made of considering how native Indians could be admitted to share in the administration of their country, but all instructions issued were thwarted by what Lord Lyrron called "subterfuges," and with great ingenuity.

In 1870 a law was passed reiterating and confirming the rights of native Indians to employment in the government of their country, but, like the royal promises that had preceded it, it was enacted only to become a dead letter.

What may be the ultimate issue of the struggle now begun in India for only a moderate measure of self-government, is involved in obscurity. The present Government of England has at Its head a statesman who, a few years ago, said that the only policy for India was one of drift and blood-letting. But that policy is now stranded; and it is not Indian blood only that is flowing or Indian money only that is being spent.

The admitted failure of the military expedition against the Afridis to accomplish its object, with the consequent diminution of the British prestige, is itself a material addition to the strength of the Indian demand. British rule has existed in India for a century and a half, and not a promise made to its people by its allen rulers has yet been fulfilled. The overtaxation of the whole people, numbering some 240,000,000, has become so burdensome that it is a question whether the world may not witness one of the most gigantic bankruptcies of history, only in less degree disastrous to the conquered Indians than to their British conquerors.

In 1883, Lord HARTINGTON, now the Duke of DEVONSHIRE and a member of the present British Cabinet, warned the British people of the danger of the selfish policy that was being followed in India, and of the effect it would have in exasperating the people against British rule. He is now in a position to make his influence felt, if it is not already too late. Influential Indians in their despair are openly asking each other whether the condition of their country could be worse under Russian rule, and one in particular has gone so far as to warn the English Government that there are features in its Indian administration which Russian emissaries could urge with great plausibility upon the minds of the masses of the Indian people against the English, if ever the Russian Government contemplated disturbing England in India.

The Proper Christmas Gift.

A letter from Brooklyn asks of us a question which, doubtless, is perplexing the minds of many thousands of the readers of THE SUN at this time, when the season for giving gifts is so near at hand. The lines of public transportation are crowded daily even in the hours when usually the lessened demand on their accommodations favors the comfort of the remaining travellers, and a great part, if not the majority, of the women who occupy chiefly the seats and cling to the straps of the cars are loaded down with parcels indubitably containing Christmas gifts.

It is a sight which increases respect for human nature and is altogether touching. We may describe it as an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, using without irreverence the words of the Catechism's definition of a sacrament, for it affords a conspicuous manifestation of the self-sacrificing human affect tion which is so closely akin to the very essence of religious sentiment, Mr. STEAD of London puts New York in the regions under the special rule of Satan, but the great enemy of souls must feel that a dan gerous rebellion against his diabolical authority is going on hereabouts in these

The letter of inquiry to which we have referred is to this effect:

holiday days.

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-SIF: Kindly mention a few things, either of which you consider appropri-ate to offer to a young lady as a holiday gift. I have only been acquainted with the aforesaid about thre nonths. She works where I do, and at a press. One day she accidentally cut her finger so badly as to prevent her from resuming the same work for about five weeks. During that time I had her in my charge in another branch of the business.

"I have escorted her home almost nightly for six weeks; and have been out with her on several occasions afterward, and am very fond of her company, as you will readily detect.

"About three weeks have elapsed since the death of her sister, to whom she was so closely attached that she seems to Imagine that there is little or no

joy in life for her.
"If you will please respond at once I shall feel greatly obliged to you for your extreme kinds.
"BROOKLYS. Dec. 16."

The multitude of gifts proper for Christmas is endless in variety, and, happily, it includes numberless articles whose prices are within the means of every giver, no matter how light his purse. The cheapness of many really beautiful manufactures is amazing. Our friend, however, it is evident, desires that his gift shall represent and signify in its importance and appropriateness the great depth of his affection and sympathy for the woman of whom he is enamored. Most of all, he wishes that it should touch her heart and reveal to her the richness of his sentiment toward her. But magnitude in the gift is not requisite for that purpose. It is the giving | istic of the scorcher. Therefore, the bicycle rather than the mere material form of the gift which expresses that feeling. The gift country, only to find that all the fine is only the outward and visible sign; the emotion that prompts the giving is the in-

> Hence it is not of much matter what the gift is, so long as he gives it and she accepts it as a revelation of that spirit. If it is possible for him to discover what she | over the sea. Only a short time ago Dr. appropriate. It is not the gold in the wed-

cle at the bargain counter. The two have no relation. The only value worth con sideration is in the feeling.

Great complaint is made of the unequal distribution of the blessings of life, but the organization of the social system does not cause any inequality in the distribu tion of the greatest blessing of all. Affection is independent of poverty or riches; it bears no relation to material circumstances. Everybody gets of it the full share he deserves, since the blessing is rather in the bestowal of the affection than in the receiving of it.

Accordingly, we do not need to suggest to our inquiring friend any particular gift. Whatever he gives to the girl will be glo rified by the affection it symbolizes and to which it appeals.

Japan and Kiao Chou,

The mingling of anxiety and caution which the Mikado's Government shows regarding Germany's seizure of Klao Chou Bay is suggestive. The inquiries which its representatives at various European courts and at Pekin, according to the despatches, have been instructed to make, are as to Germany's chief object in that seigure: whether it is to be temporary or permanent; whether Germany, France, and Rus sia consented to it beforehand, and how

China regards it. These inquiries show that Japan not only knew nothing about the move, but is still completely at sea on the subject. Her questions go to the root of the matter, and involve what we all want to know; but they also indicate that she has not been consulted by any other power, and is compelled to make advances in order to obtain elementary information.

There is little doubt that Japan feels keenly the German encroachment in China. It was said, at the close of her great victory over that country, that she was anxious to form a league with her against European aggression; and, however that may have been, it is clear that in Russia's attitude, practically causing her withdrawal from the mainland, and regulating the character of her protectorate in Corea, she recognized that Europe was a bar to any notions of continental aggrandizement.

In the absence of an agreement between China and Japan for mutual support, the capacity of the Celestial Kingdom for blundering is so enormous that Japan would hesitate to link her destiny with that of her neighbor. Japan's future points to growth and greatness, while China may any day be broken to pieces. Not only China's military and naval weakness but also her fatal habit of procrastination exposes her to constant peril. Japan wisely refrains from standing by her now until after sounding the European powers as to what they think and will do.

This policy, also, avoids the danger of a rebuff which Japan might get should she protest on her individual account against Germany's conduct. Such a step in the dark might be a severe blow to her slowly growing prestige. Japan has too lately come out of the list of negligible nations for very positive self-assertion. She is steadily growing into a power that must be reckoned with in international affairs,

but she knows the risk of presumption. Meanwhile she becomes spokesman for the rest of the world in regard to what we all want to know. If the answers to the questions which her Foreign Minister is reported to have drawn up, are frank and prompt, and are made public, all needed light can be thrown on ways now dark at Kiao Chou.

The "Speer" of the Speaker.

An anecdote concerning Speaker REED, printed the other day in the Providence Journal, represented him as saying that the fact that a certain bill had passed the Senate without a dissenting voice was "the very best reason why it should not pass the House,"

Our esteemed contemporary, the Boston importance, and it rebukes the Speaker for what it calls "his reported sneer at the

It is Mr. REED's fortune or misfortune to be credited with many utterances of which he is entirely innocent. Like other statesmen who have fairly won a reputation for incisive wit and chain-lightning repartee, he has become in his turn a convenient hook on which to hang all sorts of pleasantries, both modern and ancient. He can only suffer and be silent.

Perhaps he never said it. Perhaps if he did say it, he did not mean t in any sense disrespectful to the Senate. a body bound to his own House by living flesh, even as CHANG was bound to ENG.

The speaker is a philosopher, even before he is a wit. Is it not true that a measure which entirely escaped scrutiny in one of two coordinate legislative bodies, ought for that reason, first of all reasons, to be regarded attentively by the other?

The Bicycle Nose.

It would be unfair to medical science and to mankind at large if the year were allowed to end without proper attention to the latest affliction said to be caused by bicycling. A recent number of the British Medical Journal contains this statement by a physician:

"As a considerable majority of the patients who have lately consulted me for masal trouble have com plained that the sensation of obstruction has either comm-need or considerably increased since they have taken to the bicycle, the question arises: Are we to node of locomotion among the causes of nasal mis chtef? It is quite conceivable that the quick rush through the air, inhaling large quantities of du the country roads, and all sorts and conditions of dirt on the London ones, might cause considerable irrita-tion to the nasal mucous membrane."

So it appears that John Bull has got a "bicycle nose," and also that the peculiar, overstrained countenance known as the "bicycle face" has again been subdivided. The doctor has failed to say whether the bicycle nose is peculiar to any one class of wheelmen, but, inasmuch as it is supposed to be produced by "a quick rush through the air," it is doubtless mainly characterface, so far as it distinguishes that loose jointed individual, now embodies four distinct features, namely, the bicycle nose, the bicycle eyes, the bicycle ears, and the bicycle jaw.

Perhaps the differentiation of the bicycle nose is not altogether surprising in view of some other developments reported from DESTOT, in an account of his cycling adventures published in the Gazette des Hopitaux, declared that "after a long ride he experienced paræsthesia in the fourth and fifth fingers, with impaired sensibility, and paresis in the interessel, lumbricales, and the adductor pollicis," and that "this paresis was followed by distinct atrophy in the affected muscles."

There is no reason to suppose, however,

bleyele nose as is to be found in the alarming condition of Dr. DESTOT. In this country the scorcher had a merry time of it before the days of bicycle policemen, yet he never developed anything worse than "monkey back" and the "ostrich will save a great deal of f od and come perilneck." The only sort of bicycle nose to be ously near starvation rather than eat his food. found over here is the "nose for business" So, in a way unexpected, he must be adding greatly to the world's savings; and, if the use of possessed by the American wheelmakers. his oven were general, the savings of money That peculiarity has its home here, and to would be enormous, somewhat approaching the its rapid growth in the past two years is due the fact that the American bicycle is almost as popular in Europe and Australia

as it is in the United States. The bicycle nose that affects the nasal membrane is a total stranger to us. So is paresis in the interessel, lumbricales, and the adductor pollicis." If they should ever visit the Greater New York they will be promptly and pitilessly handed over to the proper authorities.

A Silly Piece of Impudence.

With comical assurance the little clique engaged in the effort to divide the Republican party in this city and State demand that they be represented in the appoint ment of Republican Commissioners in the new Police Board, Section 270 of the Greater New York charter provides that of the four members of that board "no more than two " shall "belong to the same political party or be of the same opinion on

State and national politics." The disorganizing clique make their de mand on the pretence that they are "the representatives of the majority of the Republicans of the city," and that the genuine Republican organization "does not repre sent the Republican party." But who made them the representatives of anybody except themselves, Republicans or otherwise ! They are self-appointed only; any other little coterie of individual Republicans would have as much right as they to as sume to be the Republican party.

The Citizens' Union movement, in which these would-be mischief-makers took part expressly disavowed political partisanship It had no party color whatever, according to its pretensions, but denounced the intro duction of "opinions on State and national politica" into a municipal contest as a grievous moral and political sin. It was made up of Democrats, Mugwumps, and Republicans, and it nominated a ticket without any authority entitling it to representation as a political party under the provisions of the charter. It represented the Republican party no more than the Democratic party, and neither of them, save in the volunteer support of individual Republicans and Demo crats independently of their partisan "opinions on State and national politics." Its nominations were made by a self-appointed committee of Democrats, Mugwumps, and

Republicans. Mayor VAN WYCK, therefore, would be as much justified in yielding to a demand from the Citizens' Union people to appoint Democratic Police Commissioners of their selection as to pay any heed to the resolutions passed on Thursday evening that these bolters should have the Republican representation in the bi-partisan Police Board. The resolutions are simply a silly piece of impudence.

The project of certain well meaning persons to turn the East River Park, above Eighty-sixth street, into a gymnasium is a plan of perversion, not of improvement.

Park or Gymnasium?

There is other park territory available for the use which the promoters of athletic toys have in view; but the ground they want at the riverside is too valuable for other and at least equally important pur-

poses thus to be appropriated. Let them look elsewhere. As well might the Riverside Park, on the other side of the island, be converted into a sort of Elysian Fields or Olympia.

Jan. 12 will be a day forever memorable Herald, regards this remark as of serious in the annals of literary composition. There will be a run on the vocabulary. All the words in the English language will be required for use by the committee of the People's party which will meet in St. Louis on the day hereinbefore mentioned and make a call, and a loud and large one, for a national convention of that party. The callers are Middle-ofthe-Roaders, and their equals in sonority are not to be found. Imagine a whole national con mittee of James R. Sovereigns and you get some dim notion of what is going to happen at St. Louis and be heard around the world Jan. 12. Now is the time to begin to hoard words.

The great event of the year and all years has happened. The Hon, CARL SCHURZ of Pocantico Hills has delivered his annual address on civil service reform. The Hon. WILLIAM DUDLEY FOULKE of Indiana has also delivered his annual address on the same fascinating sub-Christmas presents. The work of the year is

The case of the Topeka seven-year-old boy to whom has been granted a conditional license to practice law will not be classed among the wonders of the world by persons who are familar with Kansas and remember that Populist judicial officers have sometimes gone to to study law after their election The old Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, the first sketch of the People's party, would not admit lawyers; and the prejudice against them has not been lost. Yet nobody likes to make laws better than some of these naters of lawyers.

The Hon. Solon Chase, who bears a name celebrated throughout Maine in conection with steers, made "a spirited and forcible presentation of the free silver arguments' in Lewiston the other night. There seems to be something about free silver which gives a great appiness to the man who talks about it. The audience may feel a less enchanting pleasure, but the orator has deep joy every time he emits his speech. It may be said that this is often true of orators who devote themselves to other subjects than free silver, but the free-silver spouter seems o get more pleasure besides finding good health in his pur uit of the goldbugs. There are silver shouters who have been talking free silver for nearly wenty-five years; and the longer they live and talk the healthier they seem to be.

M. FERDINAND BRUNETIERE cannot have seen some of our most distinguished rivers, or he would not have said that American rivers look young or, rather, primitive." Evidently M. BRUNETIERE never had the good fortune to look upon the Chicago. That is not young o primitive. It is the first and original solid iver in the world. Tiber or Aufidus, Tagus or Indus, cannot rival the Chicago in solid, though far from youthful, charms

Our esteemed contemporary, the Indianapolis Sentinel, seems disposed to question he value of the Hon. EDWARD ATKINSON as an economist and "statistician." Mr. ATKINSOI will easily quell the doubter by means of his ingenious system of block statistics, which p ove everything needed, and prove it while you wait. But Mr. ATKINSON'S reputation as an economist rests upon the solid fact that he has done more for economy then anybody else in the world. By means of his Aladdin Oven he has manage

A PLEA FOR CUBA. most everybody would prefer to die than eat; not that the eater of them would have any remarknetion with the Policy of Both Gran able chances of surviving. Thus he has gradually inculcated into the breasts of those who know his economical cooking a distante for all cooking and all eating. At any rate they

What new pair of plush breeches is daz-

zling the eyes of the Hon. JAKE REID just now!

Some new plush creation has fastened his covet-

The Kansas City Times remarks that

Governor LEEDY of Kansas and Governor Hot-

COMB of Nebraska "have similar records " This

seems unjust to the former of these eminent

Populists. He is now scattering jack rabbits, or

promising to scatter them, among the poor and

hungry plutocrats of the East. Governor Hot-

COMB is known to have been at one time

quently a character objectionable to the true

Populist, A man who lends money or has money

enough to lend is known in good Populist com

pany in Kansas and Nebraska as a usurer and

money shark. No doubt the Hon. Silas Hol-

COMB has long repented of his error, but no

amount of repentance can place him on that

lofty plane occupied by the Hon. John W.

THE EAST RIVER PARK.

Project to Desirey Its Beauty and Charm

and Interfere with Its Proper Use.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I see by the

daily papers that at the last meeting of the Park

Commissioners several associations for the

amelioration of the condition of the poor and

for the promotion of athletics have applied for

the use of the level portion of East River Park

north of Eighty-sixth street, as an open-air

The tract referred to, as I understand, lies just

outh of the mansion on the north end of East

River Park, and consists of a level piece of

greensward dotted with large shade trees of

considerable age. From this point of vantage

east and south. On this territory the benevolent

societies propose to construct a running track

parallel bars, trapezes, swings, and all the para-

phernalia of an open-air gymnasium. A high

fence must necessarily be erected around this

tract in order to keep out the children who can-

not be accommodated within, as well as to pro-

tect the little girls who are to use the gymna

slum every other day.

Now, I do respectfully protest against the

ase of East River Park in any such manner as

above described, and I do it in full cognizance o

and its entire practicability as shown by the

success of the open-air gymnasium in Boston or

the Charles River. East River Park is

perk of river view, of shaded banks when

thousands of women, little children and mer

gather to rest and enjoy the cool of the evening

or early morning and the charm of the su

rounding landscape. Baby carriages and moth

Chief Justice Marshall on the Constitutional

ity of Annexation.

et on that annexation of t

the unanimous opinion of the court, said:

territory either by conquest or by treaty."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.

mont were not guilty.

Government possesses the power of acquiring

Mr. Caritsie and Col. Lamont Acquitted

From the Chicago Record,

Olney, Hoke Smith, J. Sterling Morton, Attorney

General Harmon, Postmaster-General Wilson, and

So-Called Temperance Drinks.

From the Medical Record.

popularity among tipplers of certain so-called tem

they contained more alcohol than many straight-out

goods in black bottles. The Massachusetts Board of

Iralth has recently made a similar discovery con-

cerning tonics and bitters, particularly those recom-

mended as "temperance" drinks, in which the per-

New England Town Where Everybody Is Irish.

From the Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

Of Benedicta, Me., Prof. Bateman wr tes: "If ther

another town in this country like it I am unable to

locate it. The peculiarity of the place is the fact that the population is composed exclusively of Irishmen.

There is not a family in the entire township through

whose veins courses any other blood than that of the Emeraid Isle."

Vigilant Officers of Tupper Lake.

From the Tupper Lake Herald.

On Sunday morning last, between the hours of 12 'clock and 1 o'clock, when all of our good people

were in the arms of Venus, dreaming of the sermon

that was to take place that morning at their respec

tive houses of worship, a good deed in the way of

several arrests was being carried out by Officers Larro,

Manuas, 1807.

From the Philistine.

Wescott and Edwards at Tupper Lake Junction.

From the Philiatina.

Just a haulin' out the stuff
From the plains o' Kansas,
Raliroads can't get cars enough
Fur to empty Rausas.
Ort to see the farmers grin
Stroke the filacs on toelr chin,
As the cash comes rollin' in,
Over there in Eansas.

Women singin' songs o' gles, 'Bout ol' fruitful Kansas,

Bables crowin' merity
Bables crowin' merity
Everywhere in Kansas.
Purty girls a buyin' ciothes,
Toggin' out from head to toes.
Biyls' You bet your life s'e goes,
Over there in Kansas.

When the cares o' day is done, On the plains o' Kansas, An' the kids legin to yawn, Bleepy like it Kansas, Parmer wipes his glasses blurred, Reads a chapter o' the Word, Then kneets downs and thanks the Lord That he lives in Hansas.

rance beverages, an analysis of which showed that

ALDIS B. BROWNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Noting

the great value of the benevolent work propo

LEEDY, jack rabbit distributer.

mortgagee, a money lender, and couse

ous gaze, unless all signs fail.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Those who, in other lands, have taken up arms to release themselves from oppression have always had the cordial sympathy of the people of the United States. The last and most striking proof of this is to

be found in the platforms of the parties upon which the candidates for national offices stood during the last Presidential election in respect of the struggle which the people of Cuba have so long and so successfully maintained against Spain in behalf of their independence. Upon every other point the conventions which erected those platforms differed radically. In their several interiors, discussions upon many other subects were divergent and bitter, but upon the Cuban question the conventions were all unanimous. They all agreed that the people of that island should be free.

This declaration has found expression on the hustings, in State Legislatures, in the halls of Congress. The resolution offered by Senator Cameron recognizing the independence of the island was supported by the numerous prece dents which he cited. The concurrent resolution which passed the Senate granting to the combatants the rights of belligerents is pending in the House.

Anomalous as it may appear to those who entertain the opinion that ours is a representative Government whose duty it is to carry out the commands of the people, the fact is that notwithstanding, indeed in despite of the popular voice, and notwithstanding what has been our course in respect of other countries, where Cuba has been concerned the executive branch of our Government has not only never been friendly to that island, but has been, on the contrary, practically the ally of Spain. Men and money, indeed, have not been sent to her, but everything else necessary to carry on a war she has been permitted to obtain from our shores without stint.

Her spies have been allowed to infest our orts, and on their reports our officials have taken proceedings against those who, by them, have been deemed guilty of an infraction of our neutrality laws. United States vessels have been kept on patrol duty to prevent the expediting of supplies to those whom she was fighting. blockading our own ports and coasts against our own vessels and commerce. All this of government differ entirely from ours, and against a people who have been pursued vindictively by their mother country, who have been despoiled by her and have never enjoyed any right of citizenship except that of paying

This, too, when there seems to have been no only no obligation, but no excuse for such conduct. For the ports of Cuba have always been open, and Spain has always contended that there has been no war on the island. If, according to her, there has been and is no war, there word, therefore, any vessel had, and has the right to clear from any port in this country for any port in Cuba, carrying no matter what character of cargo or what number of passen gers, and to proceed on her voyage unchal-lenged. Should she meet a United States vessel. that vessel should, if necessary, afford her as sistance and protection, and not capture her or turn her back; and no vessel belonging to Spain would have the right to hinder or molest her while she was on high seas.

The ships of our navy were never intended to act as a coast guard for other nations. It is not our province to see that their laws are not vio ated within the limits of their own jurisdiction Yet this is precisely the use to which many of hem have been put.

or early morning and the charm of the surrounding landscape. Baby carriages and mothers abound more here than in any other park of similar size in the city. It is a park for rest and quiet enjoyment above everything else. Does it seem fair to these people, who have been secusiomed to occupy this park, to introduce the discordant element of the tramp and the shouting of half-grown boys on running track and jumping bars penned within a high fence, shutting out charming views?

It seems to me, moreover, an ill-advised and unnecessary descration of one of the mos unique and attractive park landscapes of the city. The space it is proposed to occupy covers only about half an acre and is the key point of all the views. It is covered with greensward, charming to the eye, and has large shade trees on it that are sure to be injured by the stress of gymnasium work.

On the other hand, there are park territories elsewhere that are unimproved, have no ahade trees, no greensward, no views, lie level, and among a dense population of poor people. There is such a place recently taken by the city at Hester street. Division street, and Essex street, covering over an acre. There is another between First avenue and Pleasant avenue and 113th street and 114th street, covering about three acres. Several other pieces of ground of similar character in other parts of the city are in process of condemnation for park purposes, but the above-mentioned can be used at once. Will not The Sun exert its powerful influence to avert this menace to East River Park and to persuede the worthy open-air gymnasium people to seek other and better quarters elsewhere!

New York, Dec. 17.

Chief Justice Marshall on the Capiting all. If it be said that these vessels so used were necessary to intercept any hostile expedition which might sail from our shores, the answer is that no hostile expedition could be organized except in one of our ports, and this could not be done without the knowledge of the law officers of the Government, who could easily break it up The proof of this answer is found in the fac that no such expedition has been organized here since the present rebellion in Cuba broke out. Many acts of omission as well as of commis

sion were charged against President Grant dur ing his administration of the affairs of the Government. Of them all the most conspicuou was his refusal to acknowledge the belitgerer rights of the Cubana, who were then in revol His message in support of his course showed not state the law as it is laid down by inter national jurists of authority. It was agains precedent. Our people could not understand President Grant's logic, which, while it admitted your convincing answer in to-day's SUN to the that fighting had been going on for ten years, enied that war existed. They believed stitutional, I beg leave to call your attention to that if war existed, the parties thereto were the decision of the United States Supreme Court equally entitled to belligerent rights, and that rendered in 1818, in the case of the American Inthe hospitality of our country should not be surance Company vs. Canter (1 Peters, 511), enjoyed by one of the combatants exclusively wherein Chief Justice Marshall, in delivering They considered that the facts and the law were both against him. They also believed that he "The Constitution confers absolutely on the had violated the precedents set by President Government of the Union the powers of making Monroe, who, under circumstances similar to war and of making treaties; consequently, that those which were before him, not only granted to Spain's South American colonists beiligerent rights, bu acknowledged their independence; and that he had forgotten likewise the prece dent set by Spain herself when she hastened to accord belligerent rights to the people of the

South when our troubles there began. One of the principal arguments Gen. Grant of forty-five-year-old whiskey which used in support of his course was that the Major Barrack G. Thomas gave to Miss Richardson of Cubans had possession of no port. Of what use Lexington, Ky., to send to the Secretary to baptize would one have been to them! If they had the battleship Kentucky has been totally consumed eaptured one, it would have been rendered un-It was a perquisite of the last Administration, and tenable by Spanish war vessels, or so closely was partaken of by President Cleveland, Secretary watched that they would not have received anything through it. Besides, they had no vessels and would not have been allowed to sail under a flag if they possessed them, and this because ests of his chief and whose devotion to duty required of their non-recognition as belligerents. Conhim to consume forty-five-year-old whiskey and all other beverages that were used and appreciated by sequently the seas were prohibited to them and no port would have availed them anything. the President. Secretary Carille and Secretary La The question was not whether they had vessels on the seas or whether there were ports open to their entry, but whether they were compatant with an army in the field. A ten years' war Not long ago attention was called in London to the answered that question.

It is not, therefore, surprising that many of President McKinley's best friends are disap pointed that he should have followed so closely the course pursued by President Grant, opposi as it was to the one pursued by President Monroe. This is the more disappointing, because the facts under which President Grant acted resemble only as a mole hill resembles a moun tain the facts as they existed when President McKinley indited his message. It is true that in President Grant's message

stated that numerous engagements had taken place between the insurgents and the Spanish troops, and that much property had been destroyed, but he considered that these engagements had not raised the struggle to the importance of a war; and it is a fact that, notwithstanding these engagements and destruction of property, our commerce with the island had not been disturbed materially. We gathered from it some \$100,000,000 per annum. He did not know the number of men in revolt. He did not hear, except in faint tones, any cries from those who were oppressed. He did not know what portions of the island were under

know what portions of the island were under the control of the respective parties.

At present, on the other hand, 30 000 well organized and well equipped men are under arms and in the field. The Spaniards have under control only such portions of the island as are surrounded by Spanish soldiers, who are blockaded from the land, and but for their being accessible from the sa would starve in their forts and intrenchments. Upward of 100,000 Spanish soldiers have perished in the last three years in their vain attenuts at ward of 100,000 Spanish soldiers have perished in the last three years in their vain attempts at subjugating the instructis; double the number that were killed an a wounded in the tweive great battlee of our war. The population of the lat and has been reduced fr in 1,500,000 to 1,000,000 since the rebellion broke out; three times the percentage of the losses of the Prussians in the seven years war moter the Great Frederick. Our commerce with the island has been reduced to almost nothing. Fire and sword have devast ted Cuba. President McKindy cannot but have heard the weals which have gone up from the miscrable and starving people who have been persecuted and tortured as no Christians have been persecuted and tortured since Nero's time in Rome. Christians have been persecuted and tortured as no since Nero's time in Rome.

It appears to me that this is war upon a gigantic scale, and in its most hideous form; so gigantic such hideous that all civilized nations should raise their united voices against it.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.

THE "NATIONAL UNIVERSITY,"

A Physician Who Thinks We Need One Merely to : linch the Degree of M. D. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your editorial article to-day on the question of a

national university you say: "In the first place there is no necessity for it." With regard to the degrees of A. M., A. B., Ph. D., &c., there may be little to be said against

your position in the matter, but in the case of the degree of M. D. there is much,

In these modern days this degree seems to be as worthless as the parchment on which it in engrossed. A young man begins a three or a four years' course of study thinking that, if he is diligent and succeeds in passing his final examinations, he will receive a diploma conferring the degree of M. D. and, with it, the privileges naturally pertaining thereto.

But it is not so. He receives the coveted 'sheepskin" it is true, but it is of very little value to him, for, before he can practice his pro-

"sheepskin" it is true, but it is of very little value to him, for, before he can practice his profession, he ust p as nother examination, equally as rigid as the first, under the floard of Medical Examiners of the State in which he wishes to settle.

Take, for instance, the case of a young man who wishes to be thoroughly fitted before locating. He spends a year or two in hospitals and a term at a post-graduate school, and wishes to be thoroughly fitted before locating. He spends year or two in hospitals and a term at a post-graduate school, and wishes to locate himself. He has finished with chemistry and physiology two years before graduating, so that it is now nearly five years since he has thought of, or had any use for, the ma, crity of the dull, dry facts of these two brunches of the curriculum, yet he must pass as rigid an examination as when they were right in his mind. He may be barred out by falling to pass in these two branches, yet no one will de y that he is better qualified to shine in his chosen profession than when he graduated.

Again, suppose that he qualifies, settles near the border line, and, after another five years, he wishes to move to a better location a few miles away, in an adjoining State. Once more he must go through the a me process. He is a thousand times better fitted to "minister unto the lile of minkind," but he remembers even less now about the unimportant details only used in passing examinations. What is the cause of this deplorable state of affairs is Simply that there is no national standard of medical education. A diploma may be bought for a few dollars in one State; in another it may be obtained by paying the fees at a one-horse medical school and passing thereupon a ridiculously easy examination.

The people have been obliged to protect themselves by instituting these State boards of medical examiners. If, however, the standard was fixed by a national university and all medical schools were obliged to grad uate the classes under its supervision, a diploma would mean some

BOSTON'S CHAMELEON DOME. In There Any Connection Between This Phonomenon and Contemporary Politics ?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As dear to the heart of the true Bostonian as is its sacred codfish, is the gilded dome of the State House arising over our famous Common. Accustomed as we are day after day to gaze upon the golden dome, imagine with what startled chagrin we awoke one morning recently to find that its golden glitter had vanished, and that in the place of the familiar brilliant bue a dull red had spread itself over the crowning glory of the State House. Surprise gave way to won derment when one morning soon after a dull gray-white shade was observed stealing up from

derment when one morning soon after a dull gray-white shade was observed steafing up from the base of the dome and mantling it to its crowning cupota. Everywhere spread the query. "What is the cause of all this ?" But none there was who evid explain.

The Sup perhaps can point out to a wondering populace the connection between the strange conduct of that celebrated dome and the present political campaign. Putting aside the simple explanation that the changes are caused by the repairs under way on the old Builfinch structure, the dome having been stripped of its golden coating and treated with coats of paint preparatory to a new dress of gold leaf, it might be shown that while the Hon. Josiah Quincy, under charges of the Bryanized Democracy of being a goldbug, was serency contemplating an election to another term as Mayor, the State House dome preserved untarnished its golden hue but so soon as the Hon. Tom Riley, he of the leonine mane, swept into the political arena as the howling advocate of Bryanism in its most rabid and rampant form, the dome underwent a change of color, first dissolving into a dull red, emblematio of the peculiar character of the Riley movement, and then, as if to typify the complexion of the Democratic party, into a silvery whiteness.

The silver of Bryanite Riley has for the moment overcome the old gold of Josiah. In the end, however, there will burst forth in all its golden spiender a new dome, as Edward Upton Curtis will triumph over the warring factions of the Democracy in the coming city election. Lea The Sun note the prediction!

E. B.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. Marseilles has a 107-year-old woman who still carns Rosten eggs used in making cake have sens a Lon-

on baker to jail. He had 1,645 unused bad eggs in Traffic on the railroad between Tientsin and Poking has thereased so much that a double track must be

laid at once. Onals of fine quality and in large quantities he been found in the Tairua and Chinemuri valleys is

New Zealand. Bishop Creighton of London urges ladies when visib ing the poor to wear their best clothes and to be or ful not to look dowdy.

Sir John Everett Millate's biography is being write ten by his younger son, John Millais. The book will

Donna Elvira de Bourbon, the eloping daughter of Don Carlos, is building a villa for herself near Save na. In the Italian riviera. Coolgardie is putting up a "Goldfields" cathedral

though the miners are deserting the place for the new stations deeper in the desert, from which unoccupied gold claims are reached. No parcel containing coin, jewelry, or anything

made of gold or silver will be forwarded by the Bris ish Post Office hereafter to foreign countries or Brit-tsh colonies unless it is insured. Any one detectes violating the rule will be fined. Lord Mansfield is the oldest member of the Tory

Carleton Club. The next person on the roll would be Mr. Gladstone, who was admitted in 1838, if he had not changed his politics and joined Lord Palmerston's Ministery in 1859, when he resigned from the ciub Mme. Lequeux, who recently died at the age of 88 years, was one of the victims of Orsini's attempt to

blow up Napoleon III. in 1853. She was hit by twenty-two splinters of the bomb, each inflicting a dangerous wound; her face was greatly disfigured. Russ'a's pre-a censor varies his punishments incontously. The Miraviya Otgolsshe Naroda, the Sys. Oleist extra and the St. Petersbury Zeifung have been forbidden to print advertisements, while the Russid

not be sold at retail. Mr. Ernest Waterlow, A. R. A., the landscape painter, whose father is a former Lord Mayor of London has been elected President of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colors, in succession to the late sir John Gilbert. Two ballots were needed, as the first resulted in a tie between Mr. Waterlow and Hu-

bert Herkomer. The "four thousand Irish doukeys" fore the Queen's Bench Court, is likely to be take the place of mules, and, not proving efficient, the consigners refused to pay on the ground that they were asses of inferior quality. Mr. Bray, Q. C.

is among the counsel employed. Sir John Luobock has gone to the ant again, and, if be keeps up his visits and others imitate him, that in-teresting insect will become useless for Sunday-school purposes. Sir John succeeded in getting fifty unte nelplessly drunk and then placed them outside an ant-hill. The sober suts came out, picked up that friends, and put them to bed to sleep off the effects of Sir John's Hugor: the strangers, however, they sterniy

Bonivard's track worn in the parement around the p liar in the castle of Chillon to which Hyron assert that he was chained has been declared to be an im-posture in the Geneva Cautonal Assembly, Complaint having been made that the historic footprints had disappe red, a State Councillor explained that they had n ver really existed, but had b en manufactured from time to time to satisfy the cravings of travel-lers, and that when repairs were made in the castle this year they had forgotten to renew the footprints. Lord Halsbury, the English Lord Chancellor, who practically appoints the Judges of the High Courts of Justice, has had an unexampled run of patronage during the past twelve months. He has promoted four Judges and spheinted five new ones, while the recent death of Baron Pollock and the resignation of Mr. Justice Day give him two more places to fill. Of the thirty two irremovable Judges no less than twenty owe their present positions to him, and two more will soon. Two other Judges were appointed by the preceding Conservative Lord Chane Bor. Earl Carns, and only eight obtained their places from the Liberal Lord Chancellors, the Earl of Selboras Lord Herschell.